

To Democrats—The Fifteenth of May!
Are our Democratic brethren throughout the State aware of the fact that the Democratic State Convention for the nomination of a candidate for Governor, and for other purposes, will be held on the 15th of next month? It would seem not, for although it barely was a month of that time, comparatively few counties have as yet appointed delegates. We would respectfully but earnestly urge upon our friends the necessity of immediate action. We would suggest the holding of meetings, and the appointment of delegates at such courts as may intervene between this and the time specified for the holding of the Convention; and in counties where no courts intervene, the holding of special meetings for the appointment of delegates.

Successor to Mr. Calhoun.
We find in the Charleston Mercury, of the 8th instant, a correspondence between Gov. SEABROOK, of South Carolina, and Gen. HAMILTON of the same State, in regard to the Senatorial vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. CALHOUN. On the 1st instant, Gov. SEABROOK wrote a letter to Gen. HAMILTON, tendering him the appointment, and on the 3d Gen. HAMILTON replied, accepting the appointment so tendered. Subsequently, doubts having arisen regarding Gen. HAMILTON's eligibility, that gentleman promptly tendered his resignation of the appointment which had been conferred upon him. The point in question is, whether Gen. H. is really a *bona fide* resident of South Carolina, as his wife and family live in Savannah, Georgia. The General believes that he is a citizen of South Carolina, having his only fixed domicile in Bluffton, St. Luke's Parish, in that State, but as there seems to be doubt upon the subject, he has thought it better to return the appointment.

Our Book Table.
THE DEMOCRATIC REVIEW, for April, is received. It may be remarked of this magazine that its political and financial articles are very ably written, but its literary pretensions, if it makes any, are totally unfounded. The leading article in the present number is entitled "Centralization," which is a bold and forcible defence of the State rights doctrine, and opposed to centralization or the assumption of any powers by the General Government beyond those expressly delegated to it.

THE MEDICAL EXAMINER, for April, is also received. It no doubt contains much valuable information for the medical profession. LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, publishers, Philadelphia.

Also, from the same publishers, a DICTIONARY OF POETICAL QUOTATIONS, consisting of extracts on every subject, compiled from various authors and arranged under appropriate heads; by JOHN T. WATSON, M. D. This selection seems to have been carefully made, and will not doubt be found very convenient to those who desire to embellish their compositions with poetical quotations. Although somewhat familiar with the works of many of the most popular poets in the language, we cannot find that we have ever made a quotation but once in our life, and it is probable that that had better been omitted.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.—We are indebted to Hon. A. W. VENABLE for a copy of the Patent Office report for 1848, and to Hon. LEWIS CASS for a copy of his speech on Mr. BELL's resolutions.

Bad Taste.
It is understood that Mr. WEBSTER and Mr. DICKINSON will accompany the remains of Mr. CALHOUN to their final resting place in South Carolina, and it seems to be expected by some that, on their return from the discharge of that solemn duty, they will stop in Wilmington to participate in scenes of festivity and mirth; in fact, that they will be present at a WEBSTER and DICKINSON ball, to be given in their honor. We do sincerely hope that no such violation of good feeling and propriety will be committed—that these aged men, returning from the grave of one associated with them through so many long and trying years, will not shock the moral feeling of the community by so rapid a transition. Nor, standing with one foot in the grave, use the other to dance, as it were, over the fresh turf that covers a recently deceased friend.

There are two old prints, we believe by HOGARTH, one entitled "The Funeral," the other "The Return from the Funeral." In the first, every one is as solemn as an owl and as grave as an oyster. In the return, all is laughter and merriment. We hope that the progress of the Committee escorting Mr. CALHOUN's remains will present no such incongruity in its going and returning. To be sure this is the "nineteenth century," and anything like feeling is rather obsolete, unless for effect, but still a proper regard for appearances requires that people should at least "go through the motions" in a becoming manner. Of course, it is not supposed that they should feel, but then they should at least seem to feel.

LAUNCH OF A STEAM FRIGATE.—The launch of the United States steam frigate *Susquehanna* took place at Philadelphia on the 6th inst. Her measurement is nearly 3,000 tons, and in many respects, she will be the heaviest and most powerful war steamer in the world.

Democratic Victories in Connecticut and Ohio.
It will be seen by the annexed statement, that spite of the laborious exertions of that industrious man of all work, (dirty work, included,) TRUMAN SMITH, the federal party has been routed "horse foot and dragons," both in Connecticut and Ohio; thus ensuring a Democratic United States Senator, from the former State, in place of that rank Whig Wilnot provisoist—BALDWIN—whose term will expire March next:

CONNECTICUT.—The State of Connecticut has clearly gone Democratic. The following is believed to be the result: Senate, 6 whigs, 14 democrats, 1 doubtful; House, 102 whigs, 112 democrats, 8 free soilers. The vote for governor, from all the towns of the State, except 14, gives Mr. Foster, whig, 26,594; Mr. Seymour, democrat, 26,800; and Mr. Boyd, free-soil, 2,283. In 1849, Mr. Trumbull had in the whole State, 27,800; Mr. Seymour, 25,106; Mr. Niles, 3,320.

OHIO CONVENTION ELECTION.—There have been received returns from 41 districts, which returns 28 Democrats, 28 Whigs, and 6 Free Soilers to the Convention to amend the Constitution. The impression is, that it will be largely Democratic.

PER CONTRA.—The Little Algernon State of Rhode Island is as strongly Federal as ever—only more so. Mr. WEBSTER NOT COOKING.—On account of having to go home on indispensable private business, Mr. WEBSTER has been excused from serving on the committee to escort Mr. CALHOUN's remains, consequently he will not come here, as expected.

VISIT OF MRS. WEBSTER AND HER DAUGHTERS TO THE GOVERNOR.—Mrs. Webster and her three daughters paid a visit to Governor Briggs, at the Adams' House, yesterday. The interview lasted about an hour. It is said to have been painfully interesting. Their pleadings for mercy towards the unfortunate husband and father were intense and affecting. It is supposed that they have made a deep impression upon the Governor.

ANOTHER SHOWER OF FLESH AND BLOOD.—A correspondent of the Richmond Whig says that pieces of flesh and blood recently fell from a cloud over about the extent of a rood of ground in Hanover county, Va. The specimens sent are said to smell very much like frogs, and may have been taken up by a water-spout from some swamp, and been battered into the appearance presented by their fall.

Gen. Cass' Course Endorsed.

The following resolutions have passed the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan. It will be seen that they endorse the course of the Senators from that State, in their patriotic efforts in support of the Union, and in opposition to the Wilnot proviso. Gen. Cass will now be at liberty to retain his seat, and pursue whatever course his judgment may dictate in regard to this matter, untrammelled by legislative instructions:

Joint Resolutions relating to the Union.

Whereas the people of this State are opposed to the extension of slavery, but believe that a crisis in our national affairs has arrived, which demands an expression of their deep, devoted, and unshakable attachment to the Union, and their firm determination, in a spirit of mutual forbearance and moderation, to guard by all means against the dangers at present, in the opinion of many, threatening its integrity; and whereas, in the present emergency, they believe that our Senators in Congress ought to be left free to act as their judgment may dictate, on all questions that may arise in any way affecting the stability and permanency of the federal compact: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Michigan, That, in the opinion of this State, the people of this State most heartily approve of the noble and patriotic stand taken in the Senate of the U. S. by those distinguished statesmen who, representing the various and different feelings of our common country, have united their efforts to preserve the Union "ONE AND INDIVISIBLE."

And be it further resolved, That, in the opinion of this legislature, it is the duty of our senators in Congress, and they are hereby requested, to retain their places in our national councils, which they have heretofore filled with such signal prudence and distinguished ability; and they are hereby left free to aid by voice and vote in any and every movement which their judgment may decide to be best calculated to promote the interests and glory of the whole nation, and the tranquillity, integrity, and permanency of the Union.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to transmit certified copies of this preamble and these resolutions to the Vice President of the United States, and to each of our senators in Congress.

Mr. Webster Sustained.

Nearly one thousand of the most intelligent and respectable citizens of Boston, have addressed a letter to Mr. WEBSTER, thanking him for his great Union speech in the Senate of the United States. It is a strange fact, that while Mr. WEBSTER's course is heartily endorsed by his political opponent of the Boston Post, it is met with cold disapprobation, or still colder praise by the organs of his own party, not even excepting the Boston Atlas, which has heretofore been regarded as his especial organ. It is said that the ABOT LAWRENCE interest is arrayed against Messrs. WEBSTER and WINSTON upon the slavery question in Massachusetts, and that these gentlemen accompanied by Mr. ASHmun will canvass that state during the next recess of Congress. We wish them all success in their efforts to crush the miserable spirit of fanaticism, but fear that they will receive a very limited support from their own party. Mr. WEBSTER's present position is the same which was avowed in the address of the Democratic State Convention of Massachusetts previous to the last Presidential election and was bitterly assailed by their opponents, who denounced Cass as a pro-slavery propagandist, while even Mr. WEBSTER himself, invited the Free Soilers into the ranks of the Whig party, which he said was the real anti-slavery party of the Union. He then showed the wind, and must now reap the whirlwind, even when he would do better.

The Raleigh Star and Edward Stanly.

We clip the following from the Raleigh Star of 3d April. The Editor is commenting upon the speech of Mr. STANLY, recently delivered in the House of Representatives, upon the slavery question. The Star is a Whig paper, but goes with the South on the slavery question. Mr. STANLY is a Whig, as every body knows. In the speech which the Star is commenting on, Mr. STANLY said that if the people of Nashville do their duty when the delegates to the Southern Convention assemble there, "they will drive every traitor into the Cumberland River." We have before referred to this speech, and shall not offer any comments upon it now.

It is unfortunate that Mr. STANLY has not been able to perceive the extent of the aggressions actually perpetrated and threatened by the North against the South; that he too lightly regards the grievances of the latter; erroneously attributes the excitement at the South to a declining feigning spirit; and thus gives encouragement to the fanatic—the very man whom, in another part of his speech, he so eloquently and sharply rebukes. We do not believe there are half a dozen intelligent men in North Carolina, who agree with Mr. STANLY in the opinion, that "this agitation, this attempt to excite alarm, is altogether now, as it was last summer, in the Southern States, for party purposes;" and we are glad to see the Register, of this City, which is far from giving any countenance to an undue agitation, and would be among the last to do injustice to Mr. STANLY, plainly and frankly expresses its dissent from this assertion; and boldly affirms that "the South has suffered gross wrongs;" that her rights under the Constitution have been "wantonly and shamefully violated." On this point Mr. STANLY's own immediate constituents differ widely from him, if the solemnly expressed opinions of the "sober, patriotic and conservative" Whigs of Hyde County be taken as evidence of what the people believe in that district.

Honor to the Memory of Mr. Calhoun.

The following resolutions expressive of the sense of the Legislature of New York, were reported to the Senate of that State, on the 2d instant, by Mr. MORGAN, from the Joint Select Committee appointed on the Message of the Governor, announcing the death of the Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of New York have heard with deep regret of the death of the Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN, United States Senator from South Carolina; that they entertain sentiments of profound respect for the pre-eminent ability, the unsullied character and the high-minded independence which, throughout his life, distinguished his devotion to the public service; and that they unite with their fellow-citizens throughout the Union in deploring his death as a public calamity.

Resolved, That the Governor of this State be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the President of the Senate of the United States, with a request that the same be entered on their journal, and a copy to the Governor of the State of South Carolina, with a request that he transmit the same to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a token of respect to the memory of the deceased, the public offices be closed, and the flag at the Capitol be displayed at half-mast for twenty-four hours, and that the Senate do now adjourn.

The same resolutions were passed by the Assembly, which also adjourned.

QUICK PASSAGE.—The passengers who left New York in the steamer Cherokee, on the 5th of January, reached San Francisco in thirty-six days.

CALIFORNIA FORTUNES.—A Washington letter in the N. Y. Journal of Commerce says:

"A gentleman from California, now here, says that Col. Fremont is the richest man in the world. His gold mine will probably be saleable in a few years, at six millions an acre. Mr. Wright mentioned to-day, that he knows of spots belonging to the Government, which are worth six millions of dollars an acre, and will produce from ten to twenty per cent. a year on that sum."

DYING WORDS OF MR. CALHOUN.—An authentic report of the last hours of Mr. Calhoun, in the Charleston Mercury, states that a few hours before his death, he uttered the following remark:

"I cannot avoid thinking of the political affairs of the country. If I could have but one hour to speak in the Senate, I could do more good than on any previous occasion of my life."

The Conviction of Webster.

"Gentlemen of the Jury.—You are sworn in all cases, to decide according to the evidence; at the same time, if you have any doubt, you are bound to give the prisoner the benefit of it. Suppose you have to pronounce on the guilt or innocence of a gentleman accused of felony. You will naturally doubt whether any gentleman would commit such offences; accordingly, however strong may be the testimony against him, you will, perhaps, acquit him. The evidence of your own senses is, at least, him. The evidence of the witnesses; if, therefore, your own sight convinces you that the prisoner is a well-dressed person, you have a right to presume his respectability; and it is for you to say whether a respectable person would be likely to be guilty of the crimes imputed to him. In like manner, when you see a shabby-looking fellow in the dock, charged, for example, with shop-stealing, the decision rests with you, first, whether or not that individual is a rascal; and, secondly, how far it is probable that a man of that description would steal sheep."

Punch's charge to the Jury.

The principles laid down by that distinguished Jurist, Chief Justice PUNCH, in the above extract from his admirable charge to the Jury, are fully recognized, and acted upon by many of the writers for the public press, and other disputants with whom we meet in our daily walk and conversation. It seems to be a settled principle with some, that human testimony is only credible when brought to bear against the life or reputation of an humble individual, or one who occupies an inferior position in society, but loses all force and value when the criminal may happen to belong to the respectable and wealthy classes, respectable and wealthy being used as convertible terms. A most glaring instance of this may be found in the case of Dr. WEBSTER. This man was arraigned before the highest criminal court of Massachusetts, the Chief Justice on the bench was his personal friend, the Jury was, to all intents and purposes of his own choosing, and was composed of highly respectable men. The trial occupied eleven anxious days, and from its commencement to its close, the Jury held no communication with the world at large—they heard nothing upon the subject but the testimony, the speeches of the counsel, and the Judge's charge; finally, WEBSTER himself was allowed to address them before they retired, and give his own version of any circumstances he might choose to explain, and then the Jury, having retired, before they proceeded to make up their verdict, knelt down and invoked the direction of Providence to guide them in the discharge of their terrible duty. When they consulted together there seemed to be no difference of opinion in regard to WEBSTER's guilt, although one Juror, a personal friend of his, disliked to give a verdict because he was opposed to hanging, but when shown that he was sworn to give a verdict according to the evidence, irrespective of consequences, he yielded his scruples and joined with his fellow-jurors. No man could have had a fairer trial. No verdict could have been made up more deliberately nor more prayerfully; yet no sooner has the result been made known than the verdict is attacked by nearly all the leading presses in the Northern cities, especially in New York and Philadelphia. The opposition to the verdict is founded upon the fallibility of human testimony and the "respectability" of the accused, as though all judicial proceedings were not based upon human testimony, and its rejection, merely upon account of its inherent fallibility, would not strike at the root of all law and justice; besides, there is no greater mistake in the world than that of confounding social position with character. A man may be rich—he may be one of the "upper ten," but yet his character be that of a tyrannical, overbearing, or cruel man; whereas another, in the humbler walks of life, may be distinguished by kindness and amiability. It would be unjust and foolish to reject the evidence to be derived from character, but it would be equally so to substitute mere wealth or position in its stead. The journalists who declaim against the verdict as being irreconcilable with WEBSTER's character, really make this mistake of confounding his character with his social position. So far as we can see anything of his real character, it was bad. He was notoriously unreliable in his pecuniary relations, and in some of his transactions his conduct was far from honorable. In many instances, also, when not restrained by conventional usages, his temper seems to have been irritable, and even cruel. These things—the exhibition of the man himself—are the only points of any importance as evidence; and all other things are merely adventitious, and form no more a part of the man's character than would the fineness or coarseness of his coat.

We make these observations in regard to this case because they are of general application, and we have heard the same sort of reasoning advanced by men in our own midst. The allusion to classes is altogether too frequent in all American communities.

The demagogue praises the poorer classes as containing all the virtue and honesty in the world—the would-be aristocrat considers character as the necessary accompaniment of wealth and position. Both are wrong. A man may acquire wealth and be honest; another may be poor and be none the less so. A rich man, or a "respectable" one, may be a scoundrel, and so may a man who does not own a farthing in the world. The man himself should alone be looked to. To neglect this, and pay attention only to the accessories of wealth or poverty by which he may be surrounded, betrays vulgarity of feeling and shallowness of judgment.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF N. C.—The Medical Society of N. Carolina held its first anniversary meeting in Raleigh, on Wednesday last week.

Dr. Strudwick, of Orange, the President, delivered an address upon the general improvement of medical science, upon the subject of the improvement of the medical profession, and the duties of Physicians, &c. The officers of the association for the last year were reappointed. Drs. W. G. Thomas, E. Strudwick, and J. F. McKee, Sr. were appointed delegates to the National Medical Convention, with Drs. N. J. Pittman, W. L. Norwood, and J. F. McKee, Jr., as alternates. Dr. C. E. Johnson, of Raleigh, was selected to deliver the lecture at the next session of the Society, with Dr. N. H. McKee, W. G. Hill, C. E. Johnson, R. B. Haywood, and E. B. Haywood, all of Raleigh, were chosen a State Central Committee.

The following gentlemen were elected Honorary members. Dr. Benj. Robinson, of Fayetteville, Drs. J. F. McKee, Sr. and A. J. DeRosier, Sr., of Wilmington, Dr. James Webb, of Hillsboro', Dr. J. T. Norcom, of Edenton, Dr. S. J. Baker, of Raleigh, Dr. Thomas H. Hall, of Edgecombe, and Dr. R. T. Broadnax, of Rockingham.

The next sitting will be in April 1851, at Raleigh.

SAFETY OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

A telegraphic dispatch from our Baltimore correspondent, dated on Saturday last, gives us the gratifying intelligence that the New York Commercial Advertiser of that day, contains a letter from St. Paul, Minnesota, announcing the safety of Sir John Franklin.

This intelligence will be received with the greatest gratification throughout the whole civilized world. The interest that has been expressed in England, on the fate of this bold explorer of unknown regions—the munificent rewards that have been offered for any information respecting him—the exhibition of heroism, and attachment, and perseverance of his lady, who has by her indomitable efforts to rescue from peril, or learn the fate of her husband created a most intense feeling throughout the whole world—has thrown around the name of Sir John Franklin a romance, that apart from the information which his perilous voyages may contribute to knowledge of heretofore unexplored regions, will cause every philanthropic heart to bound with pleasure. We await further details to learn the particulars of this gratifying intelligence.

Charleston Courier, 8th inst.

Thirty-First Congress—First Session.

WEDNESDAY, April 3.
SENATE.

A message was received from the President, on the subject of a diplomatic agent sent to Hungary during the recent war between that country and Austria. Ordered to be printed.

After the presentation of petitions and memorials, Gen. Cass presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee of Arrangements be directed to cause to be published, in a pamphlet form, and in such manner as may seem to them appropriate, for the use of the Senate, — thousand copies of the addresses made by the members of the Senate, together with the discourse of the Rev. Dr. BUTLER, upon the occasion of the death of the Hon. JOHN C. CALHOUN.

The blank was filled up with the number of ten thousand.

Mr. Mason, chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, stated that he had received a letter from Dr. J. C. Calhoun, requesting that the remains of his father should remain in the Vault of the Congressional Burying Ground until their removal to South Carolina. In view of their removal, and as a further token of respect, he moved that when the remains shall be transferred to Mr. Calhoun's native State, they shall be attended by a committee of the Senate. The resolution was adopted, and the number of the committee fixed at six.

On motion, the Secretary of the Senate was directed to pay to Dr. J. C. Calhoun, the sum due the late John C. Calhoun for per diem compensation and mileage.

The Vice President made an explanation regarding his understanding of the powers conferred upon him by the rules of the Senate. He thought it was his right to call Senators to order when they transgressed the rules of decorum, and he should therefore exercise that right in the rigid enforcement of the rules. The explanations were ordered to be printed, and entered on the minutes.

Mr. Baldwin, of Connecticut, finished his speech upon slavery, and was replied to by Mr. Underwood, of Kentucky.

Mr. Bradbury gave notice, that on the day after to-morrow he would call up his motion in regard to removals, and would then offer a few remarks.

On motion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Considerable time was occupied in a discussion concerning the purchase of water rotted hemp for the Navy.

The Speaker presented a communication from Hon. G. W. Crawford, Secretary of the Navy, asking for an investigation into his connection with the Galphin claim. On motion, a committee of nine was ordered to be appointed by the chair to make such investigation.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the California question.

Mr. McClelland, of Ill., offered for consideration a plan for the settlement of the slavery question very similar to that offered in the Senate by Mr. Douglas, except that Mr. McClelland incorporates the admission of California and the erection of new territorial governments into one bill, the principle of which is the admission of California with her present constitution and limits, and the organization of territorial governments for the remaining territory without the Wilnot Proviso.

The committee was then addressed by Mr. Richardson, of Illinois, and Marshall, of Kentucky. At the conclusion of Mr. Marshall's remarks, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 4.

SENATE.
The Vice President announced from the Chair the following Senators as the Committee on the part of the Senate to attend the remains of the Hon. John C. Calhoun to his native State: Mr. Mason, Mr. Davis of Mississippi, Mr. Berrien, Mr. Webster, Mr. Dickinson, and Mr. Dodge of Iowa.

Mr. Atchison was appointed to fill the vacancy in the Committee on Foreign Relations, left vacant by Mr. Benton having been excused from serving.

Memorials and reports from Committees were received. The Senate took up the joint resolution introduced by the Committee upon Public Printing. The resolution provides for releasing the present contractors from their engagements, and giving the printing to two offices, to be paid at a certain stipulated rate, which will be about 30 per cent. higher than that paid under the present contract. It seems that at the present prices the contractors are unable to do the printing at the proper time and in the proper manner, hence the contemplated change. After considerable discussion, the whole subject was postponed until the next day.

Mr. Foote's resolution for raising a Select Committee next came up, and a discussion arose between Mr. Webster and Mr. Foote, the former contending that California should first be admitted, and then the Territories should be attended to afterwards. Mr. Foote contended that in order to obtain a settlement of the question, the bill for the Territories should be taken up first, because it was apparent that California would be admitted at any rate, but it was far from certain that governments would be given to the Territories, without the proviso. Once admitted California, and her friends, having obtained their end, would care but little about the fate of the other bill.

Mr. Shields having obtained the floor for the next day, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker announced the following members as composing the Committee ordered yesterday to be appointed, on the request of the Secretary of War, for an investigation into his conduct in relation to the claim of the representatives of George Galphin: Mr. Bart of South Carolina; Mr. Grinnell of Massachusetts; Mr. Featherston of Mississippi; Mr. Gentry of Tennessee; Mr. Disney of Ohio; Mr. King of New Jersey; Mr. McLanahan of Pennsylvania; Mr. Conrad of Louisiana; and Mr. Jackson of Georgia.

Mr. Strong, from the Committee on Elections, reported against the admission of Hugh N. Smith and Almond W. Babbitt, as delegates from New Mexico and Deseret respectively.

The House then resumed the hemp discussion, which was participated in by Messrs. Stanton of Tennessee, Stanton of Kentucky, Bowlin of Missouri, and others.

On motion of Mr. Richardson, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and resumed the consideration of the California question.

Mr. Green, of Missouri, obtained the floor and addressed the Committee on the slavery question, and against the present admission of California.

Mr. Spalding followed in a speech in favor of the admission of California, and in defence of the administration. Mr. S. having concluded, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, April 5.

SENATE.

The Senate took up Mr. Foote's resolution to raise a select committee of thirteen, to whom should be referred the various projects for the settlement of the slavery question.

Mr. Foote being entitled to the floor, yielded it to Mr. Shields, who addressed the Senate upon the sub-

ject under consideration. He would vote for the bill for the recapture of fugitive slaves, for the admission of slave States from Texas, in accordance with the treaty of annexation, but would obey the instructions of the Legislature of his State in voting for the application of the Wilnot Proviso to the territories, and for the admission of California.

Mr. Underwood asked what was the immediate question before the Senate? The Vice President stated it to be the amendment offered by Mr. Baldwin, excepting the question of admitting California from such reference. Mr. Underwood then said he hoped the committee would be raised, and all the pending questions referred to it without any such exception on behalf of California.

Mr. Butler strongly urged the consideration of the other measures *pari passu* with that for the admission of California. He deprecated the passage of the California bill as a separate measure.

Mr. Clay avowed himself in favor of Mr. Foote's motion for a committee. He thought it might do good, and it could not do harm. He was also in favor of the admission of California, and at the beginning of the session, he should have urged the measure of her admission separate from all others, but experience had since convinced him that that measure would be opposed, and probably defeated, if so urged; and that the readiest way to secure the admission of California, would be by coupling it with the bill for the organization of the territories. He thought it could be no disrespect to California, to make this disposition of the matter. She was still only a Territory, and would be so until admitted as a State; and could claim no precedence over her sister territories of Utah and New Mexico. Besides, the coupling of these measures might subvert a much more important end than even the admission of California. It might effect a settlement of the vexed questions which now agitate the country. He would, therefore, vote for no amendment which, in case a committee should be raised, would tie the hands of that committee upon one of the most important branches of the subject.

Mr. Benton made some observations in favor of excepting California from the reference to the proposed committee; but before he had proceeded far, the Senate, on motion, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

In the House the day was occupied in the consideration of private claims, and some dozen bills passed for the relief of sundry persons, but nothing done of any interest to the public.

MONDAY, April 8.

SENATE.

The motion of Mr. Foote to refer Mr. Bell's resolutions to a Select Committee was taken up, the question being on the amendment moved by Mr. Baldwin, to except the subject of California from the reference.

Mr. Benton concluded his remarks in favor of the admission of California as a separate measure, and irrespective of any other question. He thought coupling California in the same bill with the Territories, was treating that State with disrespect.

Mr. Clay spoke in favor of conciliation and compromise. He ridiculed the idea put forth by Mr. Benton, that the honor of the State of California required that she should be considered by herself. She was the middle sister of New Mexico and Utah, and need not now, after making a runaway match, "cock up her nose" at being put in their company in one and the same bill. Neither was she a State now. She is no more than a territory, just like her older sister New Mexico, or her younger sister Utah, and no more, until the action of Congress shall make her a State.

Mr. Cass spoke of the California measure as a foregone conclusion. He wished the settlement of the other questions.

Mr. Douglass urged the consideration of the California bill.

Mr. Smith, of Connecticut, spoke in favor of the non-action policy of the administration; said he should vote for the proviso if attached, and then vote against one and all territorial bills. He let the cat completely out of the bag, and his speech will do much towards uniting the two bills of Mr. Douglass into one. He has given the Senate sufficient cause to suspect his motives.

Mr. Foote spoke against the non-action policy as contemptible, and the champions and advocates of the administration, who had spoken for the administration, and advised the non-action policy. He referred to Mr. Smith's views of this subject.

The Vice President called Mr. Foote to order, saying that it was not in order to say that a Senator was a champion of the administration.

Mr. Foote did not deem it criminal, in any one, to support the administration. It was not uttered as a reproach by him. He moved the postponement of the question, on account of the absence of several Senators. Motion carried, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Thompson, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a joint resolution to provide for taking the census. Read twice and made the special order for Thursday.

On motion of Mr. Bayly, the rules were suspended, and the House resolved into committee of the whole, (Mr. Boyd in the Chair) and resumed the consideration of the California question.

Mr. Wallace, of S. C., being entitled to the floor, occupied it during an hour.

He was followed by Mr. J. L. Johnson, of Tenn., when Mr. Harris, of the same State, obtained the floor, but yielded it to a motion that the committee rise. The committee rose, when

Mr. Potter, from the committee on the post-office and post-roads, reported a bill for the relief of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company, which was read twice and referred to the committee of the whole. The House then adjourned.

Correspondence of the Commercial Advertiser.

STEAMSHIP CHEROKEE, April 4, 1850.

BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.—The Commissioners for running the boundary line between the United States and Mexico had a meeting on the 15th of February, at San Diego, when it was determined that, as it was impracticable, during the present state of things in California, to advance beyond the mouth of the Gila, towards New Mexico, and nothing of importance remained to be done on that side of the line, the commission should adjourn to meet at Passado Norte on the 4th of November next.

Col. Weller was a passenger in the last trip of the Oregon to San Francisco, and General Conde and suite were also passengers in her to San Blas on her trip